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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of **Whitman**
Application No. **10/010,955**
Attorney Docket No. **3556-P02472US1**
Filed: **November 13, 2001**
For: **Surgical Clamping, Cutting And Stapling Device**
Examiner: **Smith, Scott A.**
Group Art Unit: **3721**

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this Correspondence is being deposited on the date identified below with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope properly addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Robin L. Dolan
Robin L. Dolan

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97**

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants are submitting herewith a Form PTO-1449 and a copy of the references listed thereon. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the filing date of a RCE. Accordingly, Applicants believe that no fee is required pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (b) (3). In the event a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the required fees to deposit account no. 04-1406. A duplicate copy of this sheet is included for fee processing, if necessary.

Applicants respectfully request full and proper consideration of the listed information during examination of the application, and that the listed information be printed on any patent that issues therefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

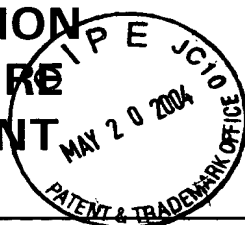
DANN, DORFMAN, HERRELL & SKILLMAN
A Professional Corporation
Attorneys for Applicant(s)

By Donald R. Piper, Jr.
PTO Registration No. 29,337

Telephone: (215) 563-4100
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Enclosures - Form PTO-1449

Copies of references listed on PTO - 1449

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Examiner Name: Smith, Scott A.

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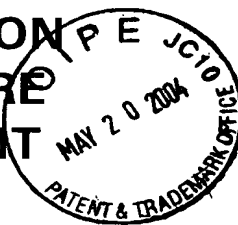
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EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE MM-DD-YYYY	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR
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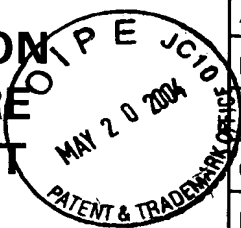
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		4445509	05/01/1984	Auth
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		4534420	08/13/1985	Goldelius
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		4606343	08/19/1986	Conta, et al.
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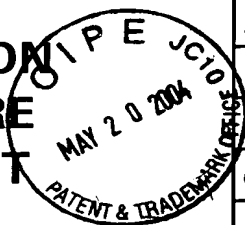
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		4813928	03/21/1988	Abet, et al.
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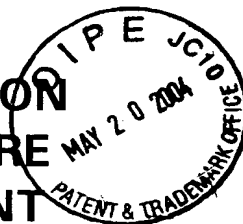
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		5139513	08/18/1992	Segato
		5171247	12/15/1992	Hughett, et al.
		5171251	12/15/1992	Bregen, et al.
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		5224951	07/06/1993	Freitas
		5226426	07/13/1993	Yoon
		5237884	08/24/1993	Seto
		5249583	10/05/1993	Mallaby
		5258007	11/2/1993	Spetzler, et al.
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		5271543	12/21/1993	Grant, et al.
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		5279565	1/18/1994	Klein, et al.
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		5333773	08/02/1994	Main, et al.
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		5350104	09/27/1994	Main, et al.
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		5815640	09/29/1998	Wang, et al.
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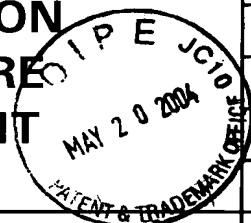
		5836503	11/17/1998	Ehrenfels, et al.
		5846221	12/08/1998	Snoke, et al.
		5855583	01/05/1999	Wang, et al.
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		5993454	11/30/1999	Longo
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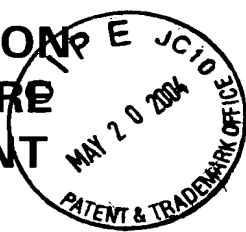
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		6010493	01/04/2000	Snoke
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		6201984	03/13/2001	Funda, et al.
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		6331181	12/18/2001	Tierney, et al.
		6346072	02/12/2002	Cooper
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		6443973	09/03/2002	Whitman
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		6491701	12/10/2002	Tierney, et al.
		6517565	02/11/2003	Whitman
		6716233	04/06/2004	Whitman

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	COUNTRY OR REGION	DATE OF PUBLICATION MM-DD-YYYY	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR OR APPLICANT
		00/72762	WO	12/07/2000	POWERMED

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Include name of the author (in Capital Letters), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item(book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published
		New York Magazine, June 10, 2002, The Best Doctors in New York, p. 80

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